blocks of Amaravati district, community special work through NGOs and imparting of health education in the local tribal languages to the tribals by a District Health Education Team.

Illegal Copper Trade

984. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards a news-item published in the Hindustan Times dated 3rd October, 1996, with a heading "Illegal copper trade has cost crores" mentioning another scam in the offing and cheating of the Government exchequer of hundred crores of rupees each year; and

(b) if so, the details of the case and the action Government propose to take against the defaulters and to prevent the cheating firms from doing their business further?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

De-licencing of industries

985. SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to his declaration that there are some industries for de-licensing in the near future and state:

(a) the status of these proposals; and

(b) the names of industries which will be delicensed in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The Government have reviewed the list of industries under compulsory licensing and decided to delicense "Entertainment Electronic Industries" and the review is a continuous process.

Sick industrial units

986. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of industrial units are lying sick in the country;

(b) if so, the total number of such sick units, State-wise;

(c) whether Government have any plan to rejuvenate these sick industrial units;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Data on sick industrial units assisted by Banks in the country is complied by the Reserve Bank of India. According to the latest RBI data available, the statewise distribution of sick industrial units as at the end of March 95 is at Statement I. (*See* below)

(c) to (e) The Government has taken a number of steps for revival of sick industrial units. Some of the important steps are at Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise distribution of sick SSI and Non-SSI units as at the end of March, 1995.

State-Union Territory	No. of sick SSI Units	No. of sick Non-SSI Units
Assam	17984	31
Meghalaya	367	2
Mizoram	162	—
Bihar	26749	53
Arunachal Pradesh	140	—
West Bengal	50500	224
Nagaland	1728	—
Manipur	2370	—
Orissa	20498	44
Sikkim	96	1
Tripura	921	5
A&N Islands	28	—
Uttar Pradesh	35988	171
Delhi	5712	23
Punjab	2473	38
Haryana	2339	62

1	2	3
Chandigarh	188	13
J&K	127	6
Himachal Pradesh	649	22
Rajasthan	17205	62
Gujarat	7728	169
Maharashtra	21346	357
Daman & Diu	67	1
Goa	657	4
D&N Haveli	—	2
Madhya Pradesh	11489	98
Andhra Pradesh	13740	225
Karnataka	11399	93
Tamil Nadu	7300	137
Kerala	8631	66
Pondicherry	234	6
TOTAL	268815	1915

Statement-II

Steps taken by Government for revival of sick industrial units.

The Government has enacted a comprehensive legislation namely 'The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985'. A quasi-judicial body designated as 'The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR)' has been set up under the Act to deal with the problems of the sick industrial companies in an effective manner, which has become operational with effect from the 15th May, 1987.

(2) The Reserve Bank of India has issued guidelines to banks for strengthening the monitoring systems and for arresting industrial sickness at the incipient stage so that corrective measures are taken in time.

(3) Commercial banks have also been directed by the Reserve Bank of India to formulate rehabilitation packages for the revival of potentially viable units.

(4) The Reserve Bank of India has also issued guidelines to the banks indicating parameters within which banks could grant reliefs and concessions for rehabilitation of sick but potentially viable units without reference to RBI both in the large and small scale sector.

(5) Revival of sick industrial units is also facilitated by amalgamation/merger of sick units with healthy units. Tax benefits are given under Section 72(a) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 to the healthy company for revival of the amalgamating sick units.

(6) Government has set up the National Renewal Fund which would inter-alia, provide for payment of compensation to workers affected by industrial restructuring.

(7) On the advice of the Government of India, the Reserve Bank of India has set up State Level Inter-Institutional Committees (SLIICs) in all States under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Industries Department of the concerned State Government for working out a rehabilitation package for revival of sick but viable small scale units.

(8) Financial assistance in the form of long term equity type assistance upto Rs. 2,50,000/- to units with a project cost not exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs at a nominal service charge of one per cent per annum is also available to potentially viable but sick small scale industrial units from the National Equity Fund set up in August, 1987.

(9) The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has been established to function as an Apex Bank for tiny and small scale industries.

Closure of Modern Rice Mill of FCI at Miryalguda, Andhra Pradesh

987. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Modern Rice Mill of FCI at Miryalguda, Andhra Pradesh, stands closed since October, 1993;

(b) the number of workers affected by the closure;

(c) whether the retrenched workers and their families have been on peaceful relay Dharna since then and are still continuing demanding alternative employment under FCI godowns etc.;